

Program Summary Sheet

ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND APPROACHES

PEO/DSA: CHEM/BIO DEF

Incumbent: Kevin J. Flamm

FY: 03

Rotation Date: Aug 03

Other Significant Command Information

1a. Significant Congressional, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and/or Army Interest:

The Alternative Technologies and Approaches Project is mandated by Public Law and must be conducted while conforming to the requirements and directives specified. It must also adhere to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency and various other Federal and State statutes and regulations (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, etc.). Because this program requires maximum protection to the public, the personnel involved in its implementation, and the environment, it is under constant scrutiny by Congress, DoD, DA, and Federal and State regulatory agencies. It mandates significant and continuous management and technical coordination with the public and public organizations interested in the destruction of bulk chemical agents.

b. Significant Impact on Military Posture and Readiness:

Successful completion of the ATAP within schedule and cost projections is imperative to the United States. It is absolutely essential to remove the threat posed to the public as a result of continued storage of aging bulk chemical agents, and to do so safely and in a timely manner which conserves the resources of DoD. Timely destruction of the bulk chemical agents contributes to the success of the CWC, and as such, reduces the threat to deploying United States forces.

c. Extensive Interdepartmental, National, or International Coordination:

The ATAP requires continuous interaction with Congress and State Legislatures, extensive interdepartmental interfaces with DoD, and active coordination with agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services, The Environmental Protection Agency, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Research Council, the Office of the Surgeon General, and others. On the international level, there is extensive interaction and coordination with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical weapons and frequent consultation with representatives of foreign governments.

d. Unusual Organizational Complexity, Technological Advancement or Interface Control:

The bulk chemical agent disposal sites are unique processing complexes employing advanced chemical/mechanical processes. While some components and plant sub-systems are readily available from industry suppliers, others require special design, development, and testing, e.g., the supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) unit being used for post-treatment of VX hydrolysate at the NECDF. Personnel protective clothing, monitoring and analytical methods, and state-of-the-art control rooms are among some of the technological advancements which allow these facilities to operate at optimum safety.

e. Unusual Difficulties Requiring Centralized Management:

Unusual difficulties requiring centralized management. This program requires the destruction of bulk chemical agents at Aberdeen, MD, and Newport, IN. The operation must be conducted while ensuring maximum protection to the public, the workers involved in the destruction effort, and the environment. Intensive centralized management is an absolute imperative to ensure compliance with Federal/State laws, policies, regulations, and directives. Further, compliance with international treaty requirements, adherence to cost and schedule parameters, plant operator training, applications of lessons

learned require active/constant centralized management. Another dimension which makes centralized management an essential aspect of this program is the requirement to project and maintain an effective single voice in the public outreach program which affects civilian communities and local citizen s advisory groups.

2. Systems currently managed by the PM:

The Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (under construction) The Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (under construction) Monitoring Alternative Technologies Enhanced Stockpile Surveillance Program